

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00250 01 OF 02 201913Z
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01
INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01
PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05
SSO-00 NSCE-00 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /122 W
-----201939Z 108253 /41

P R 201653Z MAY 77
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2148
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0250

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: MAY 20 EASTEN PLENARY STATEMENT

AT THE 136TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS ON
MAY 20, CHAIRED BY CANADIAN REP (COX), HUNGARIAN REP (FODOR)
DELIVERED THE ONLY STATEMENT. FODOR USED STANDARD ARGUMENTS
IN CASTING BLAME FOR THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE TALKS ON
WESTERN INFLEXIBILITY. HE ALSO CRITICIZED THE WEST FOR
INCREASING ITS FORCES AND THE RECENT NATO SUMMIT'S CALL FOR
EVEN GREATER WESTERN DEFENSE EFFORTS. THE MAIN POINTS OF
THE HUNGARIAN REP'S STATEMENT, THE FULL TEXT OF WHICH
FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM, WERE:

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00250 01 OF 02 201913Z

1. EASTERN DELEGATIONS REGRET THAT THE LAST ROUND
DID NOT PRODUCE RESULTS, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE EAST'S
FEBRUARY 1976 PROPOSAL AND JUNE 1976 TABLING OF EASTERN DATA
HAD LAID THE BASIS FOR PROGRESS TOWARD A FIRST AGREEMENT.

2. INSTEAD , THE WEST IS QUALITATIVELY AND QUANTITATIVELY
BUILDING UP ITS ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL

EUROPE, WITH THE RECENT NATO SUMMIT CALLING FOR EVEN GREATER EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD ON GROUNDS OF AN UNFOUNDED ALLEGATION OF A GROWTH IN WARSAW PACT OFFENSIVE CAPABILITIES.

3. AT THE SAME TIME, WESTERN PARTICIPANTS HAVE MADE NO CONSTRUCTIVE CHANGES IN THEIR POSITION WITH REGARD TO THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. THE WEST STILL MAINTAINS ITS THESIS OF FORCE DISPARITIES, WHICH IS THE BASIS FOR WESTERN DEMANDS FOR ASYMMETRICAL REDUCTIONS TO THE DETRIMENT OF EASTERN SECURITY, DESPITE THE FACT THAT IT IS NOT BORNE OUT BY COMPARISON OF NUMERICAL DATA ON THE MILITARY PERSONNEL OF THE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS.

5. THE WEST HAS ATTEMPTED TO BLAME THE EAST FOR LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE TALKS-CLAIMING THAT THE SOCIALIST STATES HAVE NOT CHANGED THEIR POSITION-BUT THE FACTS PROVE THAT THE REVERSE IS TRUE.

6. COMPARING THE TWO SIDES' INITIAL PROPOSALS, THE EAST'S GREATER ASPIRATION FOR AGREEMENT IS MANIFEST IN ITS CALL FOR EQUAL PERCENTAGE REDUCTIONS AND THE CONCRETE INDICATIONS IT GAVE OF THE EXTENT AND TIMING OF THE REDUCTIONS OF ALL EASTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS.

7. BY CONTRAST, ONLY THE US ON THE WESTERN SIDES HAS INDICATED THE SCOPE AND TIMING OF ITS REDUCTIONS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MBFR V 00250 01 OF 02 201913Z

8. THE EAST HAS MADE COMPROMISE PROPOSALS SUCH AS ITS OCTOBER 1976 PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD CALL FOR FIRST STAGE REDUCTIONS TO BEGIN WITH US AND SOVIET FORCES AND ITS MARCH 1976 (SIC; ACTUAL DATE WAS MARCH 1975) PROPOSAL THAT IN THE SECOND STAGE THESE TWO STATES WOULD COMPLETE THEIR REDUCTIONS BEFORE OTHER DIRECT PARTICIPANTS WOULD TAKE CORRESPONDING STEPS.

9. THE WESTERN POSITION, BY CONTRAST, IS ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED EVEN AFTER THE DECEMBER 1975 WESTERN PROPOSALS WHICH, DESPITE SOME POSITIVE ELEMENTS, ARE LIMITED TO A ONE-TIME OFFER COVERING ONLY CERTAIN ELEMENTS AND TIED TO UNACCEPTABLE CONDITIONS.

10. THESE CONDITIONS WOULD REQUIRE THE EAST ESSENTIALLY TO RENOUNCE ITS ENTIRE POSITION AND ACCEPT THE WESTERN ONE, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE LATTER RAISES NO EFFECTIVE BARRIERS TO A CONTINUED ARMS RACE AND GIVES NATO UNILATERAL ADVANTAGES.

11. THE EAST'S FEBRUARY 1976 PROPOSAL TOOK ACCOUNT OF WESTERN POSITIONS IN ORDER TO ACTIVATE THE NEGOTIATIONS AND TO FACILITATE THE ADOPTION OF CONSTRUCTIVE MEASURES BY THE WEST.

12. THE EAST ALTERED ITS POSITION TO CALL FOR TWO STAGES OF NEGOTIATIONS GOVERNED BY TWO SEPARATE AGREEMENTS RATHER THAN FOR THREE STAGES OF REDUCTIONS.

13. MOREOVER, IN PLACE OF THE EARLIER EASTEN POSITION THAT ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS UNDERTAKE CONCRETE REDUCTION OBLIGATIONS, THE FEBRUARY 1976 PROPOSAL WOULD REQUIRE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OTHER THAN THE US AND USSR ONLY TO UNDERTAKE TO FREEE THEIR FORCES BETWEEN STAGES, AND A GENERAL COMMITMENT ON THE SCOPE AND TIMING OF THEIR REDUCTIONS IN A SECOND STAGE.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 MBFR V 00250 01 OF 02 201913Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00250 02 OF 02 201918Z
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01
INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01
PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05
SSO-00 NSCE-00 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /122 W
-----201940Z 108376 /41

P R 201653Z MAY 77
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2149
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0250

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

14. AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE EAST'S DESIRE FOR COMPROMISE, THE EAST VOLUNTARILY OFFERED TO REDUCE SOVIET NUCLEAR ELEMENTS IN RETURN FOR US NUCLEAR REDUCTIONS.

15. THE FEBRUARY 1976 EASTERN PROPOSAL ALSO CALLED FOR THE DISBANDMENT OF WITHDRAWN FORCES, WHICH WOULD PRECLUDE THEIR REGROUPING ELSEWHERE IN EUROPE AND THUS MEETS AN EXPRESSED CONCERN OF WESTERN FLANK PARTICIPANTS.

16. GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE EAST HAS TAKEN NUMEROUS UNRECIPROCATED STEPS AIMED AT A SOLUTION, THE FAULT FOR THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE TALKS MUST REST WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00250 02 OF 02 201918Z

WEST.

17. THE WEST'S REFUSAL TO RESPOND TO THESE EASTERN COMPROMISE MOVES SUGGESTS THAT THE WEST ONLY WANTS TO TALK ABOUT FORCE REDUCTIONS, NOT TO AGREE ON THEM.

18. THIS IMPRESSION IS REINFORCED BY THE WEST'S REJECTION OF THE EASTERN PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERIM MANPOWER FREEZE, WHICH FURTHER SUGGESTS NATO'S DESIRE TO INCREASE ITS ARMED FORCES.

19. HUNGARY HOPES THAT THE WEST WILL PRESENT COMPROMISE PROPOSALS AND THAT A FIRST CONCRETE AGREEMENT ON THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS CAN BE ACHIEVED.

RESOR

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MBFRV00250
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770180-0762
Format: TEL
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770536/aaaabesf.tel
Line Count: 210
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a524408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2438225
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: MAY 20 EASTEN PLENARY STATEMENT AT THE 136TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS ON MAY 20, CHAIRED BY CANADIAN REP (COX), H UNGARIAN R
TAGS: PARM, XT, XH, NATO
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a524408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009